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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Attorneys General Seek Federal Help with Polygamy-Related Crimes

(Phoenix, Ariz. – April 30, 2008) Attorney General Terry Goddard and Utah Attorney General Mark Shurtleff today sent a joint letter to Sen. Harry Reid, D-NV, asking his assistance in arranging a meeting with the U.S. Department of Justice to discuss how the federal government can help the states with polygamy-related investigations and prosecutions.

Reid, the U.S. Senate Majority Leader, expressed concerns about the lack of law enforcement in the Colorado City/Hildale region to Radio West in Salt Lake City earlier this week. His comments prompted calls with Goddard and Shurtleff in an effort to correct the record and gain more federal cooperation.

The two Attorneys General also requested Reid's assistance with requests made to the U.S. Department of Justice for a civil rights investigation and an investigation into possible IRS violations. They further asked for Reid's support in securing a grant for the Safe Passage program which assists victims of domestic abuse.

A copy of the letter is attached.

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